

Attorney Docket No. 07319-097002
Serial No.: 10/616,481
Amendment dated July 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated March 25, 2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the of reference application are respectfully requested.

Initially, the indication that claims 11, 18, 28, 42, 43 and 47-49 are allowable is appreciatively noted. These claims have been amended into independent form, in order to maintain their allowability.

Claims 2-10, 12-17, 19-27, 29-41 and 44-46 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Hewlett. This contention is respectfully traversed, and it is respectfully suggested for reasons set forth herein that the claims are completely patentable over the cited prior art.

Hewlett teaches, like many other patents owned by the current assignee, using a single DMD device to shape the light that is output from the device. Note the DMD device, in figure 3. DMD 320 controls the light which is input to color disks. The color disks therefore operate to color the light in different ways at different times. In other words, since the system shown in figure 3 uses a single DMD, must produce red color at one time, blue color at another time, and green color that get a different times. As long as this is done faster than

Attorney Docket No. 07319-097002
Serial No.: 10/616,481
Amendment dated July 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated March 25, 2004

persistence of vision, users will see a version of the colors which has been averaged by the human eye.

Present claim 2, in contrast, teaches a completely different tactic. According to claim 2, outputs are produced which are adapted to "simultaneously control" emphasis added, three digital light shape altering devices. In contrast, the system of Hewlett produces one color at a time, and never produces outputs which simultaneously control the three altering devices. Rather, these outputs are adapted to control one device at a time, one color at a time. Nowhere is there any teaching or suggestion of controlling three devices simultaneously.

An unexpected advantage of controlling three devices simultaneously is that a much fuller range of color can be obtained, and a better experience for the viewer. Such is in no way taught or suggested by Hewlett. Therefore, claim 2 should be allowable along with the claims which depend therefrom.

For example, claim 3 defines three light shape altering devices. This is not taught by Hewlett, which teaches only a single light shape altering device being used. Claim 5 defines combining the light which has been shaped by the three devices into a composite light shape. Hewlett teaches nothing about

Attorney Docket No. 07319-097002
Serial No.: 10/616,481
Amendment dated July 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated March 25, 2004

combining multiple light beams that are shaped by multiple objects, since only a single object is used.

Claim 12, analogously to the above, teaches providing first and second signals simultaneously for use in shaping the light. These first and second signals each control a different aspect of shaping the light. Hewlett teaches nothing about providing signals simultaneously for use in shaping the light, much less the subject matter of the dependent claims. For example, claim 12 defines driving gobo shaping parts which simultaneously produce first and second parts. As described above, nothing in Hewlett teaches or suggests simultaneously producing first and second different kinds of shaped light parts. Claim 14 defines combining outputs, which should be independently allowable as described above.

Claim 22 also defines simultaneously controlling first and second light shape altering devices according to different color portions. Nothing in the cited prior art is in any way suggestive of this feature, and therefore claim 22 should be allowable along with the claims which depend therefrom.

Claim 29 defines driving three digitally controllable light shape altering devices with first second and third color components. As described above, this is in no way taught or suggested by the cited prior art.

Attorney Docket No. 07319-097002
Serial No.: 10/616,481
Amendment dated July 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated March 25, 2004

Claim 33 defines first and second different signals, and also defines first and second beams of light which have different characteristics. Nothing in Hewlett teaches or suggests using two different beams of light. In fact, each of the teachings of Hewlett teaches only a single beam of light, such as shown in figure 3.

Claim 38 teaches simultaneous control which should be allowable over the cited prior art as described above.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, therefore, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance for a formal notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

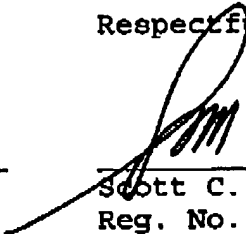
Attorney Docket No. 07319-097002
Serial No.: 10/616,481
Amendment dated July 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated March 25, 2004

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account

No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 21, 2004



Scott C. Harris
Reg. No. 32,030

Fish & Richardson P.C.
PTO Customer Number: 20985
12390 El Camino Real
San Diego, CA 92130
Telephone: (858) 678-5070
Facsimile: (858) 678-5099
10417995.doc